

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, HR. 2646**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)**

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2646

To authorize certain Department of Veterans Affairs major medical facility projects and leases, to extend certain expiring provisions of law, and to modify certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To authorize certain Department of Veterans Affairs major medical facility projects and leases, to extend certain expiring provisions of law, and to modify certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1   **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2           (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the  
3   “Veterans Health Care Facilities Capital Improvement  
4   Act of 2011”.

5           (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for  
6   this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Authorization of fiscal year 2012 major medical facility projects.
- Sec. 3. Modification of authorization for certain major medical facility construction projects previously authorized.
- Sec. 4. Authorization of fiscal year 2012 major medical facility leases.
- Sec. 5. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 6. Modification of requirements relating to congressional approval of certain medical facility acquisitions.
- Sec. 7. Limitation on authority of Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use bid savings on major construction projects to expand purpose of major medical facility projects.
- Sec. 8. Name of Department of Veterans Affairs telehealth clinic, Craig, Colorado.
- Sec. 9. George H. O'Brien, Jr., Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.
- Sec. 10. Extension of certain expiring authorities.
- Sec. 11. Authorization of appropriations for comprehensive service programs for homeless veterans.
- Sec. 12. Reauthorization of appropriations for financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing.
- Sec. 13. Extension of grant program for homeless veterans with special needs.
- Sec. 14. Extension of specially adapted housing assistance for individuals residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.
- Sec. 15. Extension of funding fees.
- Sec. 16. Notice and verification of the use of income information from other agencies.
- Sec. 17. Termination or reduction of certain benefits and services based on income information obtained from other agencies.

7   **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2012 MAJOR MED-**  
8                           **ICAL FACILITY PROJECTS.**

9           The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out the  
10 following major medical facility projects in fiscal year  
11 2012, with each project to be carried out in the amount  
12 specified for each project:

1           (1) Construction of seismic corrections for  
2       Building 100 at the Department of Veterans Affairs  
3       Medical Center in Seattle, Washington, in an  
4       amount not to exceed \$51,800,000.

5           (2) Construction of seismic corrections and ren-  
6       ovation of various buildings to include Building 209  
7       for housing facilities for homeless veterans at the  
8       Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in  
9       West Los Angeles, California, in an amount not to  
10      exceed \$35,500,000.

11 **SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORIZATION FOR CERTAIN**  
12 **MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION**  
13 **PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED.**

14       (a) MODIFICATION OF AUTHORIZATION OF FISCAL  
15       YEAR 2007 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECT AT DE-  
16       PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER IN  
17       FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS.—Section 803(3) of the Vet-  
18       erans Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology  
19       Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–461) is amended—

20           (1) by inserting “and a parking garage” after  
21       “clinical addition”; and

22           (2) by striking “\$56,163,000” and inserting  
23       “\$90,600,000”.

24       (b) MODIFICATION OF EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZA-  
25       TION FOR MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION

1 PROJECT IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, PREVIOUSLY AUTHOR-  
2 IZED IN CONNECTION WITH CAPITAL ASSET REALIGN-  
3 MENT INITIATIVE.—Section 802(11) of the Veterans Ben-  
4 efits, Health Care, and Information Technology Act of  
5 2006 (Public Law 109–461), as amended by section  
6 702(b)(4) of the Veterans’ Mental Health and Other Care  
7 Improvements Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–387; 122  
8 Stat. 4137), is amended by inserting “, including a Sim-  
9 ulation, Learning, Education, and Research Network Cen-  
10 ter,” after “Florida, area”.

11 (c) INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF AUTHORIZATION OF  
12 FISCAL YEAR 2008 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECT  
13 AT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CEN-  
14 TER IN PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA.—The Secretary of Vet-  
15 erans Affairs may carry out the major medical facility  
16 project at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical  
17 Center in Palo Alto, California, for which amounts were  
18 appropriated under chapter 3 of title I of the Supple-  
19 mental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110–252;  
20 122 Stat. 2326) under the heading “CONSTRUCTION,  
21 MAJOR PROJECTS” under the heading “DEPARTMENT  
22 OF VETERANS AFFAIRS” in an amount not to exceed  
23 \$716,600,000.

24 (d) INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF AUTHORIZATION OF  
25 FISCAL YEAR 2009 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECT

1 AT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CEN-  
2 TER, SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO.—Section 701(3) of the  
3 Veterans’ Mental Health and Other Care Improvements  
4 Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–387; 122 Stat. 4137) is  
5 amended by striking “\$225,900,000” and inserting  
6 “\$277,000,000”.

7 (e) INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF AUTHORIZATION OF  
8 FISCAL YEAR 2007 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECT  
9 AT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CEN-  
10 TER, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.—Section 803(5) of the Vet-  
11 erans Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology  
12 Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–461) is amended by striking  
13 “\$69,053,000” and inserting “\$346,300,000”.

14 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2012 MAJOR MED-**  
15 **ICAL FACILITY LEASES.**

16 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out the  
17 following fiscal year 2012 major medical facility leases at  
18 the locations specified, in an amount not to exceed the  
19 amount shown for that location:

20 (1) Columbus, Georgia, Community-Based Out-  
21 patient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed  
22 \$5,335,000.

23 (2) Fort Wayne, Indiana, Outpatient Clinic, in  
24 an amount not to exceed \$2,845,000.

1 (3) Mobile, Alabama, Outpatient Clinic, in an  
2 amount not to exceed \$6,565,000.

3 (4) Rochester, New York, Outpatient Clinic, in  
4 an amount not to exceed \$9,232,000.

5 (5) Salem, Oregon, Community-Based Out-  
6 patient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed  
7 \$2,549,000.

8 (6) San Jose, California, Outpatient Clinic, in  
9 an amount not to exceed \$9,546,000.

10 (7) South Bend, Indiana, Outpatient Clinic, in  
11 an amount not to exceed \$6,731,000.

12 (8) Springfield, Missouri, Community-Based  
13 Outpatient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed  
14 \$6,489,000.

15 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR CON-  
17 STRUCTION.—There is authorized to be appropriated to  
18 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2012 or  
19 the year in which funds are appropriated for the Construc-  
20 tion, Major Projects, account \$87,300,000 for the projects  
21 authorized in section 2.

22 (b) MODIFICATION OF AUTHORIZATION FOR CER-  
23 TAIN MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION  
24 PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED.—There is author-  
25 ized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Af-

1   fairs for fiscal year 2012 or the year in which funds are  
2   appropriated for the Construction, Major Projects, ac-  
3   count \$850,070,000 for the projects authorized in section  
4   3.

5       (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR MED-  
6   ICAL FACILITY LEASES.—There is authorized to be appro-  
7   priated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year  
8   2012 or the year in which funds are appropriated for the  
9   Medical Facilities account \$49,292,000 for the leases au-  
10  thorized in section 4.

11       (d) LIMITATION.—The projects authorized in sections  
12  2, 3, and 4 may only be carried out using—

13           (1) funds appropriated for fiscal year 2012 pur-  
14   suant to the authorization of appropriations in sub-  
15   section (a) of this section;

16           (2) funds available for Construction, Major  
17   Projects, for a fiscal year before fiscal year 2012  
18   that remain available for obligation;

19           (3) funds available for Construction, Major  
20   Projects, for a fiscal year after fiscal year 2012 that  
21   remain available for obligation;

22           (4) funds appropriated for Construction, Major  
23   Projects, for fiscal year 2012 for a category of activ-  
24   ity not specific to a project;

1           (5) funds appropriated for Construction, Major  
2       Projects, for a fiscal year before 2012 for a category  
3       of activity not specific to a project; and

4           (6) funds appropriated for Construction, Major  
5       Projects, for a fiscal year after 2012 for a category  
6       of activity not specific to a project.

7   **SEC. 6. MODIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO**  
8                           **CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF CERTAIN**  
9                           **MEDICAL FACILITY ACQUISITIONS.**

10       Section 8104 of title 38, United States Code, is  
11   amended—

12           (1) in subsection (b)—

13                   (A) in paragraph (1)—

14                           (i) by striking “detailed description”  
15                           and inserting “detailed estimate of the  
16                           total costs”;

17                           (ii) by striking “a description of the  
18                           consideration” and inserting “a detailed  
19                           report of the consideration”; and

20                           (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
21                           lowing: “Such detailed estimate shall in-  
22                           clude an identification of each of the fol-  
23                           lowing:

24                                   “(A) Total construction costs.

25                                   “(B) Activation costs.



1           “(C) Special purpose alterations (lump-  
2           sum payment) costs.

3           “(D) Number of personnel.

4           “(E) Total costs of ancillary services,  
5           equipment, and all other items.”;

6           (B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and  
7           redesignating paragraphs (4) through (8) as  
8           paragraphs (2) through (6), respectively;

9           (C) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated,  
10          by striking “a five-year period and a ten-year  
11          period” and inserting “a five-year period, a ten-  
12          year period, and a twenty-year period”;

13          (D) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated,  
14          by inserting before the period at the end the  
15          following: “, including information on projected  
16          changes in workload and utilization over a five-  
17          year period, a ten-year period, and a twenty-  
18          year period”;

19          (E) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated—

20               (i) by striking “Current and pro-  
21               jected” and inserting “Projected”; and

22               (ii) by inserting before the period at  
23               the end the following: “(including and  
24               identifying both recurring and non-recur-  
25               ring costs (including activation costs and

1 total costs of ancillary services, equipment  
2 and all other items)) over a five-year pe-  
3 riod, a ten-year period, and a twenty-year  
4 period”; and

5 (F) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated—

6 (i) by striking “a description of each  
7 alternative to construction of the facility  
8 that was considered.” and inserting “each  
9 of the following:”; and

10 (ii) by adding at the end the following  
11 new subparagraphs:

12 “(A) A detailed estimate of the total costs  
13 (including total construction costs, activation  
14 costs, special purpose alterations (lump-sum  
15 payment) costs, number of personnel and total  
16 costs of ancillary services, equipment and all  
17 other items) for each alternative to construction  
18 of the facility that was considered.

19 “(B) A comparison of total costs to total  
20 benefits for each such alternative.

21 “(C) An explanation of why the preferred  
22 alternative is the most effective means to  
23 achieve the stated project goals and the most  
24 cost-effective alternative.”; and

25 (2) in subsection (d)—

1 (A) by striking “major medical facility  
2 project” each place it appears and inserting  
3 “major construction project”; and

4 (B) in paragraph (2)—

5 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
6 “major medical facility projects” and in-  
7 serting “major construction projects”; and

8 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
9 “major medical facility” and inserting  
10 “major construction project”.

11 **SEC. 7. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF**  
12 **VETERANS AFFAIRS TO USE BID SAVINGS ON**  
13 **MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS TO EX-**  
14 **PAND PURPOSE OF MAJOR MEDICAL FACIL-**  
15 **ITY PROJECTS.**

16 Section 8104(d)(2) of title 38, United States Code,  
17 as amended by section 6, is further amended by adding  
18 at the end the following new subparagraph:

19 “(C) The Secretary may not obligate an amount  
20 under subparagraph (A) to expand the purpose of a major  
21 construction project except pursuant to a provision of law  
22 enacted after the date on which the Secretary submits to  
23 the committees described in subparagraph (B) notice of  
24 the following:

1           “(i) The major construction project that is the  
2           source of the bid savings.

3           “(ii) The major construction project for which  
4           the Secretary intends to expand the purpose.

5           “(iii) A description of such expansion of pur-  
6           pose.

7           “(iv) The amounts the Secretary intends to ob-  
8           ligate to expand the purpose.”.

9   **SEC. 8. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
10           **TELEHEALTH CLINIC, CRAIG, COLORADO.**

11           (a) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Af-  
12           fairs telehealth clinic in Craig, Colorado, shall after the  
13           date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated  
14           as the “Major William Edward Adams Department of Vet-  
15           erans Affairs Clinic”.

16           (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-  
17           tion, map, document, record, or other paper of the United  
18           States to the clinic referred to in subsection (a) shall be  
19           considered to be a reference to the “Major William Ed-  
20           ward Adams Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic”.

21   **SEC. 9. GEORGE H. O'BRIEN, JR., DEPARTMENT OF VET-**  
22           **ERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER.**

23           (a) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Af-  
24           fairs medical center located in Big Spring, Texas, shall  
25           after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and

1 designated as the “George H. O’Brien, Jr., Department  
2 of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”.

3 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-  
4 tion, map, document, record, or other paper of the United  
5 States to the Department of Veterans Affairs medical cen-  
6 ter referred to in subsection (a) shall be considered to be  
7 a reference to the “George H. O’Brien, Jr., Department  
8 of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”.

9 **SEC. 10. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EXPIRING AUTHORITIES.**

10 (a) RECOVERY AUDITS FOR CERTAIN CONTRACTS.—  
11 Section 1703(d)(4) of title 38, United States Code, is  
12 amended by striking “September 30, 2013” and inserting  
13 “September 30, 2020”.

14 (b) HOMELESS VETERANS REINTEGRATION PRO-  
15 GRAMS.—Section 2021(e)(1)(F) of such title is amended  
16 by striking “2011” and inserting “2012”.

17 (c) TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR SERI-  
18 OUSLY MENTALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS.—Sec-  
19 tion 2031(b) of such title is amended by striking “Decem-  
20 ber 31, 2011” and inserting “December 31, 2012”.

21 (d) ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR SERIOUSLY MEN-  
22 TALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS.—Section 2033(d)  
23 of such title is amended by striking “December 31, 2011”  
24 and inserting “December 31, 2012”.

1 (e) HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR HOMELESS VET-  
2 ERANS.—Section 2041(c) of such title is amended by  
3 striking “December 31, 2011” and inserting “December  
4 31, 2012”.

5 (f) ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HOMELESS VET-  
6 ERANS.—Section 2066(d) of such title is amended by  
7 striking “December 30, 2011” and inserting “December  
8 31, 2012”.

9 (g) AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER REAL PROPERTY.—  
10 Section 8118(a)(5) of such title is amended by striking  
11 “the date that is seven years after the date of the enact-  
12 ment of this section” and inserting “December 31, 2018”.

13 **SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR COM-**  
14 **PREHENSIVE SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR**  
15 **HOMELESS VETERANS.**

16 Section 2013 of title 38, United States Code, is  
17 amended—

18 (1) by striking “subchapter” and all that fol-  
19 lows through the period at the end and inserting the  
20 following: “subchapter amounts as follows:”; and

21 (2) by adding at the end the following new  
22 paragraphs:

23 “(1) \$150,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007  
24 through 2009.

25 “(2) \$175,100,000 for fiscal year 2010.

1 “(3) \$217,700,000 for fiscal year 2011.

2 “(4) \$250,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

3 “(5) \$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2013 and  
4 each subsequent fiscal year.”.

5 **SEC. 12. REAUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR FI-**  
6 **NANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SUPPORTIVE**  
7 **SERVICES FOR VERY LOW-INCOME VETERAN**  
8 **FAMILIES IN PERMANENT HOUSING.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 2044 is  
10 amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end the  
12 following new subparagraph:

13 “(D) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.”; and

14 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “2011” and  
15 inserting “2012”.

16 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (1) of  
17 such subsection is further amended by striking “carry out  
18 subsection (a), (b), and (c)” and inserting “carry out sub-  
19 sections (a), (b), and (c)”.

20 **SEC. 13. EXTENSION OF GRANT PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS**  
21 **VETERANS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.**

22 Section 2061(c)(1) of title 38, United States Code,  
23 is amended by striking “2011” and inserting “2012”.

1 **SEC. 14. EXTENSION OF SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING AS-**  
2 **SISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS RESIDING TEM-**  
3 **PORARILY IN HOUSING OWNED BY A FAMILY**  
4 **MEMBER.**

5 Section 2102A(e) of title 38, United States Code, is  
6 amended by striking “2011” and inserting “2012”.

7 **SEC. 15. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FEES.**

8 Section 3729(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code,  
9 is amended by striking “October 1, 2011” each place it  
10 occurs and inserting “November 18, 2011”.

11 **SEC. 16. NOTICE AND VERIFICATION OF THE USE OF IN-**  
12 **COME INFORMATION FROM OTHER AGEN-**  
13 **CIES.**

14 Section 5317(g) of title 38, United States Code, is  
15 amended by striking “September 30, 2011” and inserting  
16 “November 18, 2011”.

17 **SEC. 17. TERMINATION OR REDUCTION OF CERTAIN BENE-**  
18 **FITS AND SERVICES BASED ON INCOME IN-**  
19 **FORMATION OBTAINED FROM OTHER AGEN-**  
20 **CIES.**

21 (a) TITLE 38.—Section 5317A(d) of title 38, United  
22 States Code, is amended by striking “September 30,  
23 2011” and inserting “November 18, 2011”.

24 (b) SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.—Section 453(j)(11)(G)  
25 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653(j)(11)(G)) is



- 1 amended by striking “September 30, 2011” and inserting
- 2 “November 18, 2011”.